

Wage Estimates in Construction by Industry and Standard Occupational Classification

The Occupational Employment Statistics program, run by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and state employment security agencies, surveys about 400,000 establishments in all industries each year, taking 3 years to contact 1.2 million establishments, which employ more than 70% of the wage-and-salary workers in the United States.

Since 1996, the statistical program has been estimating numbers employed and wages earned for hundreds of occupations. Since 1999, when the program began using the new Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC), more than 800 occupations have been covered. The estimates are available for the nation as a whole, for individual states, and for metropolitan and non-metropolitan statistical areas; national occupational estimates for industries are available also.¹ The survey covers all part-time and full-time workers. It does not cover the self-employed, owners and partners in unincorporated firms, household workers, or people who do not receive salaries for their work in a family business.

The program surveys collect data for payroll periods that include the 12th day of October, November, or December, depending on the industry surveyed. If wage data are collected in 1999 for the 2000 report, for instance, the data are adjusted to 2000 prices by using information on wage changes in the most applicable national Employment Cost Index series (chart 25a; see chart book page 23).

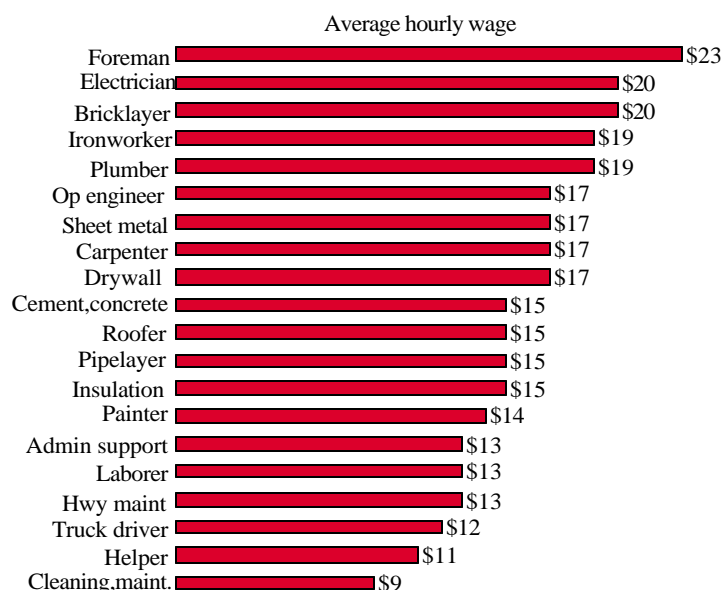
The data confirm that wage rates vary among industries and occupations (charts 25b and 25c). Even for the same occupation, wage rates can differ by industry.

The program coded industries using the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification system for its 2000 data, but is expected to start using the 2002 North American Industry Classification System in its fourth-quarter 2002 survey. (Before 1996, the program collected employment data for only a list of industries that varied in each year of the three-year survey cycle, and produced only numbers employed by each industry.)

Although another BLS survey, the National Compensation Survey, provides wage information, it does not provide the general wage profiles for a large number of occupations and locations that are used in this chart book. Instead, the National Compensation Survey is designed to integrate data from separate BLS compensation surveys and provides earnings data by worker characteristics (age, race, sex), establishment characteristics (such as, size), and geographic area; it can provide information to help set worker pay levels.

Because of the Occupational Employment Statistics program's transition to the new SOC system, the 2000 estimates are not directly comparable with previous years' estimates. The wage rates estimated by the program may differ from numbers on other pages in this chart book, as well, because of the unique survey methodology and estimate methods used by each data collection system.

25a. Average hourly wage, by selected construction occupation, 2000
(Wage-and-salary workers)



1. For state data, see www.bls.gov/oes/2000/oesrcst.htm and for data on metropolitan areas, see www.bls.gov/oes/2000/oesrcma.htm

25b. Hourly and annual wage, by construction industry, 2000
(Average and median)

| | | Hourly Wage | | Annual Wage | |
|-----|------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|----------|
| | | Average | Median | Average | Median |
| 152 | GC residential bldg | \$16.88 | \$14.44 | \$35,120 | \$30,030 |
| 153 | Operative bldg | \$19.69 | \$16.14 | \$40,950 | \$33,570 |
| 154 | GC nonres bldg | \$19.20 | \$16.98 | \$39,940 | \$35,310 |
| 161 | Highway | \$17.72 | \$15.96 | \$36,860 | \$33,200 |
| 162 | Heavy non-hwy | \$17.73 | \$15.42 | \$36,870 | \$32,070 |
| 171 | Plumbing, heating, A/C | \$18.18 | \$15.97 | \$37,820 | \$33,210 |
| 172 | Painting | \$15.07 | \$13.16 | \$31,350 | \$27,370 |
| 173 | Electrical | \$19.13 | \$16.91 | \$39,790 | \$35,180 |
| 174 | Masonry | \$17.52 | \$15.87 | \$36,440 | \$33,010 |
| 175 | Carpentry | \$16.74 | \$14.64 | \$34,820 | \$30,440 |
| 176 | Roofing, siding, sheet metal | \$16.18 | \$13.77 | \$33,650 | \$28,640 |
| 177 | Concrete | \$15.88 | \$13.83 | \$33,040 | \$28,760 |
| 178 | Water well drilling | \$14.35 | \$12.24 | \$29,860 | \$25,460 |
| 179 | Miscellaneous | \$17.32 | \$15.22 | \$36,030 | \$31,660 |

25c. Hourly wage, by selected construction industry and occupation, 2000
(Average and median; wage-and-salary workers)

| | | General Building | | Heavy Construction | | Special Trades | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| | | Average | Median | Average | Median | Average | Median |
| 00-0000 | Industry total | \$17.95 | \$15.57 | \$17.73 | \$15.58 | \$17.54 | \$15.41 |
| 11-0000 | Manager | \$32.57 | \$28.97 | \$34.03 | \$30.42 | \$33.39 | \$29.23 |
| 43-0000 | Office and adm support | \$12.82 | \$12.16 | \$13.50 | \$12.50 | \$12.62 | \$11.72 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and extraction | \$16.35 | \$15.00 | \$16.49 | \$15.15 | \$17.00 | \$15.37 |
| 47-1011 | Foreman/mgr. | \$23.11 | \$22.03 | \$22.12 | \$21.09 | \$23.39 | \$21.44 |
| 47-2031 | Carpenter | \$17.01 | \$15.97 | \$18.72 | \$16.82 | \$17.60 | \$16.14 |
| 47-2061 | Construction laborer | \$12.75 | \$11.15 | \$13.69 | \$11.60 | \$13.05 | \$11.35 |
| 47-2073 | Op engr & other const. occup. | \$19.37 | \$18.08 | \$18.66 | \$17.35 | \$18.36 | \$16.91 |
| 47-2111 | Electrician | \$17.95 | \$16.70 | \$18.46 | \$17.93 | \$20.44 | \$19.19 |
| 47-2141 | Painter | \$13.78 | \$13.04 | \$14.78 | \$13.69 | \$14.31 | \$13.08 |
| 47-2152 | Plumber, pipefitter | \$20.76 | \$18.97 | \$18.41 | \$17.26 | \$19.43 | \$18.09 |
| 47-2211 | Sheet metal worker | \$17.10 | \$15.80 | N/A | N/A | \$17.61 | \$15.84 |
| 47-3012 | Helper-carpenter | \$10.26 | \$9.94 | \$11.60 | \$10.56 | \$10.62 | \$9.91 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, maint., and repair | \$14.97 | \$13.93 | \$16.09 | \$15.17 | \$16.17 | \$15.14 |
| 53-0000 | Transport. and materials moving | \$13.81 | \$12.55 | \$14.96 | \$13.38 | \$14.35 | \$13.14 |

Note: Charts 25b and 25c -The median is the midpoint; half of the reported wages are larger and half are smaller.
Chart 25c - N/A = not available.

Source: All charts - Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Occupational Employment and Wages, 2000*. Department of Labor. USDL: 01-415, November 2001, www.bls.gov/oes/